

time to let this program stand without taxpayer support.

Proponents of energy subsidies and mandates say that they are needed to improve the environment, enhance energy security, spur economic development, and replace dwindling supplies of oil. However, this subsidy has proven to be both expensive and ineffective.

Eliminating the ethanol subsidy is a positive beginning to balancing the budget and is a responsible choice for the taxpayers of this country. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

NATIONAL WOMEN AND GIRLS IN
SPORTS DAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1997

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the growing numbers of girls and women in sports whose achievements will be celebrated across the Nation on February 6, 1997, the 11th annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day [NGWSD]. In Washington, DC, there will be a 2-mile fitness walk on the Mall followed by a luncheon on Capitol Hill where athletes will be recognized by Members of Congress.

Track and field star Lillian Green-Chamberlain is among the athletes participating in the celebration in Washington, DC. Dr. Greene-Chamberlain holds a number of firsts. She was the first national champion in 800 meters, long before it became an Olympic event, and she was the first African-American to represent the United States in international middle distance running. She was the first and only woman and American to serve as the director of the Physical Education and Sports Program for the 161 member nations of the Paris-headquartered U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization [UNESCO]. In addition, Dr. Green-Chamberlain has been a leader in developing health, education, physical fitness, recreation, and sports programs nationally and internationally for more than 28 years. I am proud that this All-American woman is from Silver Spring, MD.

Also participating in the activities in Washington, DC is award-winning canoeist Jennifer Hearn. This outstanding athlete was the 1993 U.S. Olympic Festival Champion in whitewater slalom kayaking and the 1995 Olympic Festival slalom team champion. She placed fifth in the 1993 U.S. National Championships, and won a silver for the women's slalom kayak team event in the 1990 Pre-Worlds. In 1994 and 1995, she was sixth on the U.S. National Team, and has also finished among the top 30 in two World Cups. Again, I am proud to report that Jennifer Hearn is from Bethesda, MD.

The next time I hear someone say, "You run or throw like a girl," I'm going to ask, "Which girl?" Maybe they mean the women's world record holder in the 440-yard dash in 1961, Lillian Greene-Chamberlain. Or do they mean the young woman, also from Silver Spring, who, during the 1996 Summer Olympics, helped the U.S. women win their first team gold in gymnastics, and won an individual bronze medal, Dominique Dawes? Perhaps they mean the young woman who is

considered the best girl high school basketball player in the United States, senior guard-forward from Frederick, MD, Nikki Teasley.

On the 25th anniversary of title IX, we pause to reflect on what we have accomplished in the past, and the work that we must do for the future. There is no doubt in my mind that title IX has been successful in expanding opportunities for women in athletics. We have made great strides toward increasing the numbers of women and girls in competitive athletics at the high school and college levels. Before title IX, women represented only 2 percent of the Nation's college varsity athletes. Twenty-five years later, women represent 35 percent of college athletes nationwide. The door to athletic opportunities, however, has only partially opened for women. Title IX's goal of bringing equal opportunity in sports to women and girls has yet to be realized. At schools that belong to the National Collegiate Athletic Association [NCAA], women account for 53 percent of the college students, but only 36 percent of the college athletes.

I applaud the distinguished athletes who have gathered in Washington, DC, to celebrate National Women and Girls in Sports Day, for they all are long distance runners for equality and social justice that has afforded women and girls the benefits of competitive sports.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
GIRLS AND WOMEN IN SPORTS
DAYS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 15 million girls and women who will be participating in the 11th Annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day. National Girls and Women in Sports Day will be celebrated throughout the United States on February 6, 1997.

Sponsored by Girls Inc., Girl Scouts of the USA, National Association of Girls & Women in Sports, Women's Sports Foundation, and YWCA of the USA, National Girls and Women in Sports Day celebrates the participation of women in sports and honors the memory of Olympic volleyball silver medalist Flo Hyman, who died suddenly during a match in Japan. In her honor, the Women's Sports Foundation honors a female athlete on National Girls and Women in Sports Day who exemplifies the commitment, integrity, and superior athletic ability of Flo Hyman. This year the award will go to legend Billie Jean King for her commitment to women's rights and her renown as an international tennis champion.

As a cosponsor of this congressionally established event, I would like to give special recognition to seven women who have helped to make this event possible, and who have made such a difference in the lives of young women all over the United States. They are: Regina Montoya, president, board of directors of Girls Inc.; Elinor J. Ferdon, national president, Girl Scouts of the USA; Dr. Sue Durrant, president, National Association for Girls & Women in Sports; Donna Lopiano, executive director, Women's Sports Foundation; Dr. Alpha Alexander, director, Health in Sports

Advocacy YWCA of the USA; Dr. Prema Mathai-Davis, executive director, YWCA of the USA and Benita Fitzgerald Mosley, director, Women's Sports Foundation. Every day they make it possible for young women to improve their health, self esteem, leadership skills and academics.

As the 25th anniversary of the passage of title IX, this National Girls and Women in Sports Day marks a particularly significant event in the history of women in sports. Since title IX, the law prohibiting sex discrimination in federally-funded institutions, was enacted, women's participation in school athletic programs has greatly increased. This increase has benefitted young women. Young women who play sports are more likely to graduate from high school, and less likely to use drugs or have an unintended pregnancy. They reap multiple health benefits from athletic participation, including a 40–60 percent decrease in their risk of breast cancer. In addition, athletic participation helps improve self-esteem and discipline.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these women, and all women who participate in National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

NATIONAL GIRLS AND WOMEN IN
SPORTS DAY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will recognize the achievements of women and girls in an important area that has been traditionally dominated by men: sports. As part of the 11th Annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day, many women, athletes and members of Congress will be celebrating the athletic accomplishments of women.

As cochair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, I am proud to have the opportunity to spotlight women's activity in an area where they have often been overlooked. The majority of media coverage focusing on sports coverage goes to men's sports. While a recent study found that 94 percent of local television news sports coverage goes to men's sports, women's sports get 5 percent of the coverage.

Unfortunately, one of the results of this low level of media coverage is insufficient financial support of women's sports in universities across the United States. Less than 24 percent of college sport operating budgets and less than 18 percent of athletic recruiting dollars are allocated to women's sports. This is despite the fact that women are as athletic and as talented in sports as men, and that women and girls involved in sports have greater self-esteem and do better in school than those who do not participate in sports.

By participating in sports, women and girls learn how to work as a team and to strive to achieve a desired goal, skills vital to succeeding in any career. Many women also choose sports as a career, including returning to high school or universities to coach young athletes. Yet even here women are not equal to men. According to a recent survey of head coaches of Division I basketball teams, head coaches of women basketball teams average only 59

percent of the base salary of head coaches of men's basketball.

This disparity in women's pay in many fields is the reason I introduced the Fair Pay Act that would prohibit discrimination in the payment of wages on account of sex, race or national origin. While this law will help prevent discrimination in the pay of the women working in sports, it will not get them the recognition women athletes deserve. As an accomplished women's basketball coach has said in a recent interview, "It is really frustrating to have a championship team and get two-inch stories in the paper while some average men's team gets pages written about them." This is slowly—too slowly—changing. It is my hope that tomorrow's events commemorating National Girls and Women in Sports Day will, by its own recognition, help women gain equality in sports.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL GIRLS
AND WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in commemorating February 6, 1997, as National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

Mr. Speaker, who can forget the thrill of seeing the U.S. women's Olympic gymnastics team win the gold medal in Atlanta last year? There is also much enthusiasm about the establishment of not one but two women's professional basketball leagues. What ties together these accomplishments are how they inspire young women across America to become involved in sports activities, to get in the game.

That's the motto behind the 1997 National Girls and Women in Sports Day. I'm proud to be an honorary cosponsor of this 11th annual event. A bipartisan group of Members of Congress and Senators support an early morning walk on the Washington Mall to highlight the achievements of women athletes and draw attention to the importance of sports and fitness activities for all girls and women.

National Girls and Women in Sports Day [NGWSD] is celebrated in New Hampshire and all across the country during the first Thursday of every February. It is organized by Girl Scouts of the USA, Girls Inc., the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport, the Women's Sports Foundation, and the YWCA of the USA.

The First NGWSD was organized to honor Flo Hyman, the Olympic volleyball champion who brought women's volleyball in the United States to the forefront in 1984. That's when she helped lead the American team to a silver medal at the Los Angeles Olympics. Flo Hyman died suddenly while playing volleyball in Japan in 1986. She was found to have had Marfan syndrome, a connective tissue disorder that led to a faulty aorta. Annually, the Women's Sports Foundation's Flo Hyman Award is presented to a female athlete who exemplifies dignity, spirit, and commitment to excellence in women's athletics.

Indeed, women's athletics are one of the most effective avenues available for women of the United States to develop self-discipline, initiative, confidence, and leadership skills. While in the past there has been little national recognition of the significance of women's athletic achievements, we are starting to see the opposite occur. Routinely, you will find larger crowds as women's college basketball games and the new women's professional basketball games will be carried on nationwide television. These occurrences can only serve to encourage young girls to become involved in sports at early age. This type of involvement in athletics, however, has less to do with recognition than with promoting lifelong habits of physical fitness.

I am very proud of the many fine women athletes at our schools in New Hampshire. We all read about their accomplishments in the newspapers every week. National Girls and Women in Sports Day serves to remind us that we should encourage athletic participation and competition for women of all ages, especially in the formative years. It is my hope that we see more girls and young women get in the game this year. After all, our children, girls and boys, need strong bodies as well as strong minds.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in supporting the 11th annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL GIRLS
AND WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 11th Annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day, Thursday, February 6, 1997. This day has been set aside to show the Nation's commitment to promoting the physical well-being and mental health of women and girls through physical activity.

National Girls and Women in Sports Day is instrumental in encouraging females of all ages to participate in sports. Regular exercise increases physical condition by lowering levels of blood sugar, cholesterol, and blood pressure. In addition, sports has been shown to help women feel greater confidence, self esteem and pride.

As the celebration of Black History month begins, it is my hope that this day will open the eyes of many African-American women who are twice as likely to be overweight as white women and 20 percent less likely to exercise regularly. Compared to white Americans, African-Americans under the age of 64 are 10 percent more likely to get heart disease, 30 percent more likely to have diabetes, and over 50 percent more likely to suffer from hypertension.

Mr. Speaker, I would like for my participation in today's events to serve as a model of the dedication to physical fitness that should be exhibited by other women, particularly African-American women. Finally, I would like to applaud the organizations whose combined efforts made this day possible: Girl Scouts, Girls Inc., the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport, the Women Sports Foundation, and the YWCA.